Operation Iraqi Freedom II

"Telling the First Team's Story"

Saturday, July 17, 2004

# **Changing Times Means Changing Attitudes**

By Master Sgt. Dave Larsen 1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs

BAGHDAD, Iraq- The city streets are becoming more and more congested. A coalition initiative recently funded another new gas station in central Baghdad. Commerce is picking up, and more and more Iraqis are jumping into their cars to get to and from work.

With these changes, Baghdad is beginning to resemble what it is: a major metropolitan area with more than five million residents, and the commercial capital of the country. The changeover to Iraqi sovereignty marked another significant change for Task Force Baghdad Soldiers serving in the capital city - they no longer own the streets of Baghdad. Safe driving practices are not only expected, they need to be enforced.

Staff Sgt. Tim Gray is the non-commissioned officer in charge of the personal security detail that guards the 1st Cavalry Division's

chief of civil military affairs. He spends a lot of time on the road, getting his boss to and from meetings with officials of the new Iraqi transitional government. Driving safely saves more than Iraqi lives, he said.

"Soldiers have been put in the hospital due to other Soldiers' bad driving," Gray said. "Someone is going to be killed."

Common practices of forcing civilian vehicles off the roadways that impeded convoys in the past are no longer acceptable behavior in this changing environment.

"What good is it going to do to run them off the road when they're just going to



work, or taking their kids to school?" Gray asked. "Risks are far greater than benefits for driving like

that."

Interest in how Soldiers relate and interact with the local populace begins at the top

of the command structure of the First Team.

"It must be clear to the Iraqi people that we view our duty here as providing a link to the promise of this country," Maj. Gen. Peter Chiarelli, commanding general the Cavalry Division. "One significant way we can achieve that sign of recognition is to quickly and noticeably alter behavior our toward the citi-

zenry."

Chiarelli said that showing respect to Iraqis, whether on foot patrol, in a convoy or when engaging their leaders has a direct bearing on the future success of the First Team's mission in Baghdad.

"Iraq belongs to Iraqis, and soon its citizens will begin to share in the dreams of representative government and full freedoms that have been denied so long," Chiarelli said. "Respect Iraqis as you would your neighbors at home."

The biggest thing civil military affairs specialists are stressing is that the attitudes of First Team troopers should change with the times. Soldiers

need to remember that they are now ambassadors of the United States, in a sovereign nation.

"We should speak and act in a way that will bring honor to our nation," said Sgt. 1st Class Warner Stadler, a division civil military affairs liaison. "We officer. should never allow the frustrations of our dayto-day struggles with the insurgents to reflected in our attitude toward the Iraqi people."

"It must be clear to the clear to the Iraqi people that we view our duty here as providing a link to the promise of this country."

-MG Peter Chiarelli, Commanding General, 1st Cay. Div.



The Oregonian

Everyone in the Humvees is reminded to continually wave and be friendly to the local Iraq citizens. They believe this post war time is about winning the hearts of these people - showing them we are not like what they've had for the last 30 years.

Applying an attitude adjustment will also help Soldiers on the busy city streets of the Iraqi capital.

"People should drive just like they're in their hometown," Gray said. "How would they like it (back home) if people were driving like they always had the right of way?"

# Patrol Finds Most Iraqis Pleased With Sovereignty

#### By Cpl. Bill Putnam 122nd MPAD

AL RASHID, Baghdad- A Soldier from the Iraqi National Guard's 304th Battalion walks up to a gate in the Saddiyah neighborhood of Baghdad, bangs on it and waits.

Eventually a man answers and the Soldier asks him questions ranging from what the man thinks of the new Iraqi interim government to his power needs. Op and down the street other ING soldiers do the same while U.S. Soldiers from Battery A, 1st Battalion, 21st Field Artillery Regiment, provide security. This type of mission, what 1st Lt. Ryan Swindell, a platoon leader in Alpha Battery, calls a "Target IO" or Information Operations patrol.

Every few days, the Soldiers of his battery conduct these surveys in the Saddiyah

Up and down the street neighborhood of Al Rashid diser ING soldiers do the same trict.

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-1LT Ryan

Swindell,

**Platoon** 

Leader,

A Btry,

1-21 FA

designated street, Swindell explained the goal of the questionnaire was to let the Coalition know the state of the infrastructure - electricity, sewage and garbage - and the resident's living conditions.

"It's a great way, when you put boots on the ground, you get a much better sense of how the community is," he explained. "The people are a lot more recep-

tive to you because they know you've taken the time to go visit them, to go out into the heat and go out into the danger of the city, and see how they're living."

The mission has slowly changed over the last three months since the battalion

arrived in Iraq, Swindell said. The INGs, then known as the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps, weren't actively questioning

> the residents then, he said. Now they do.

> "Let's push the ING to our front and rear," said 1st Lt. Ryan Swindell. "Letting the INGs do this just adds to the overall transition of power so the Iraqis know the ING are in charge now."

> ING soldiers questioned about 40 homes that evening. They asked what the power situation was, how often trash was collected and if the

sewage was a problem.

The joint patrol handed out "plenty" of stickers and flags for the area's kids. The ING soldiers would conduct the survey while Swindell's troops would provide security. Children asked for "chok-a-

Continued on Page 3

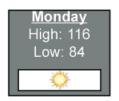


By Cpl. Bill Putnam, 122nd MPAD

An Iraqi National Guard soldier talks with a resident of the Saddiyah neighborhood in the Al Rashid district during an Information Operations patrol the evening of July 1.







Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

### **Iraqi Word of the Day**

rocket

Sa-rukh

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#### Maternity Hospital Receives Ultrasound



By Spc. Jan Critchfield, 122nd MPAD

Dr. Muhammed Jassim Al-Ruaby, Karadah District Area Council Chairman, Brig. Gen. Sandy Davidson, Multinational Force Iraq Director of Civil Military Operations, and Dr. Mohammed Ghani Chabek, Director of Elwiyah Maternity Teaching Hospital, cut the ribbon on a state-of-the-art ultrasound machine purchased for the hospital with Overseas Disaster Humanitarian and Civil Assistance funding July 12. Five ultrasound machines, five defibrillators, and an electrocardiograph machine were donated. The donations totalled \$253,000.

#### **BEAT THE HEAT**

# THE BEST DEFENSE IN BEATING THE HEAT IS PREVENTION:

#### If you must be out in the heat:

- Limit your outdoor activities to early morning and evening hours.
- Cut down on exercise/physical activity. If you must exercise or work outside, drink two to four glasses of cool fluids each hour.
- Try to rest often in a shady area.
- Protect yourself from the sun by wearing a wide-brimmed hat and sunglasses. Also, use sunscreen with an SPF15 or higher effectiveness.
- Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing.
- Caution, drinking sports drinks alone is not adequate; balance your intake of water and electrolytes.
- o Some people are at greater risk in the heat than others. Check regularly on:
  - Those that had prior heat injuries.
- Those who are physically ill, especially with heart disease or high blood pressure.

If you suspect that you or your battle buddy is suffering from a heat related illness, do not hesitate to seek medical assistance.

# 'Face Time' With Locals Important

#### Continued from Page 2

lata" or "pepsi". Their parents smiled and waved.

They spoke with the Soldiers, posed for photographs with them and thanked them for visiting.

Saddiyah is a relatively rich area of Al Rashid, said Sgt. Tim Buttz, a member of Swindell's platoon. Many of the residents are middle or upper class. Some were in the old Iraqi military and continue to serve in the new Iraqi security forces. Others work in the national ministries in downtown Baghdad.

One man, an engineer in a government ministry, said he was aware of the many projects that the Coalition has done for the area — soccer fields, playgrounds and sewage clean up. The man, who asked not to be identified, went on to say he was hopeful about the hand over of sovereignty that took place the day.

"I wish the future is very good for Iraqi peoples," the man said in broken English. "In the past was no good life, now everything is good and I hope it change for good."

For example, the man said, now people can buy cars, his salary is good and food prices are low.

For the future? He wants good projects to develop his community and country.

The presence of American Soldiers is "very necessary" and "they remain here a long time," he said.

To Swindell and his Soldiers, it's the "face time" with the locals that counts the most. While patrolling, they play with the kids and talk with adults.

Buttz, an Operation Desert Storm veteran, constantly laughed as he passed out Iraq flags to children. "You've already got three of them!" he said to one.

These patrols are for the kids because "they're the future here," he said. The father of one back home said talking to the local kids, even if they have little understanding of English, makes the deployment easier on him.

The locals, both children and adults, will wave to the Soldiers during daytime patrols, but that changes at night.

"It's at night you never know what's going to happen," he said. "But a lot of things have changed; it's not as bad as it was when we first got here."

Just three days before this mission, sovereignty was handed back to the Iraqis. Buttz said it has already helped calm down things. The neighborhood has more electricity now, the sewage problems are being fixed and the residents realize they're in charge, he noted.

"They see its happening now," Buttz explained. "They notice things are being done."

The IO missions will continue and eventually the ING will conduct them alone, Swindell said. At some point the neighborhood will be safe enough that his unit, and other units in the 1st Cavalry Division, will transition from combat patrols to do more IO-type patrols, he explained.

"That's what everybody wants — less ambushes and more IO operations," Swindell said.

# On The Home Front July 17, 2004

# Today in History July 17

From historychannel.com

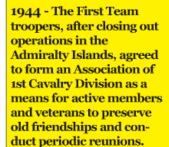
1864 Confederate President
Jefferson Davis replaces Gen.
Joseph Johnston with John
Bell Hood as commander of
the Army of Tennessee. Davis,
impatient with Johnston's
defensive strategy in the
Atlanta campaign, felt that
Hood stood a better chance of
saving Atlanta from the forces
of Union general William T.
Sherman.

1913 Film audiences are introduced to the pie-in-the-face routine, recorded in the silent film *A Noise from the Deep*. Mabel Normand hit Fatty Arbuckle in the face with a pie.

1955 Disneyland, Walt
Disney's metropolis of nostalgia, fantasy, and futurism,
opens. The \$17 million theme
park was built on 160 acres of
former orange groves in
Anaheim, Calif., and soon
brought in staggering profits.
Today, Disneyland hosts more
than 14 million visitors a year,
who spend close to \$3 billion.

1964 Jazz great John Coltrane dies of liver cancer in Huntington, New York. A saxophone player and composer, Coltrane was one of the most influential jazz figures of the 1960s and '70s.

### Today in Cav History July 17



# Look Out Below!



Benny Green catches his son, Sebastian, 4, at a Little Rock, Ark., pool. The Greens sought refuge at the pool as summer heat pushed temperatures to 100 degrees for the first time this year in Little Rock.

# **4ID Memorial Nears Completion**

By AP

FORT HOOD, Texas- An unfinished memorial at Fort Hood is getting a lot of attention for what it's made of -- former monuments to Saddam Hussein.

Two bronze statues had depicted a heroic Saddam as a mighty conqueror, on horseback, with sword aloft. But U.S. troops blew the statues off their pedestals after the invasion of Iraq.

The 50-foot-tall statues were melted down and recast

by an Iraqi artist. The new memorial depicts a GI mourning his fallen comrades while a young girl tries to console him.

The new statue is the centerpiece of an Iraq war memorial being built outside the Fourth Infantry Division's museum. The memorial, to be dedicated in August, also includes a five-foot-high wall that will bear plaques for each Fourth Infantry soldier killed.

The \$22,000 memorial was paid for mainly through donations from Soldiers.



Fort Hood Sentinel

Governor pledges \$20 million in improvements for Hood - Gov. Rick Perry announced at III **Corps Headquarters that** Texas will commit \$20.5 million for road improvements around Fort Hood, if the Department of Defense agrees to add 5,000 Soldiers and civilians over the next five vears to the post. The proposed plan will extend Highway 195 at Fort Hood Street, build an overpass ammunition route on Highway 190, provide for an alternative route for traffic at the intersection of Mohawk and Clear Creek Roads and widen Tank **Destroyer Boulevard.** 



Cop Clocks Corvette
Convoy - Sheriff's Deputy
Rick Miller works his
way down a line of five
of eight Corvettes he
stopped on July 14 for
speeding near Lake
Crystal, Minnesota. The
drivers were en route to
the Black Hills Corvette
Classic in South Dakota.
Miller had clocked them
on Highway 60 going 95
mph in a 65 mph zone.



# Sports/Leisure

# Seattle-to-Portland's 25th Bike Ride Draws Crowd

By Seattle Post-Intelligencer

SEATTLE- Karl Petterson ran when no one ran, when running indicated escape, not exercise. He jogged at night in the 1950s so as not to look suspicious or odd. Still, the cops who stopped him from time to time believed he looked both

"They thought I was running from something," Petterson said. "Not many people ran then."

Eventually, achy knees ended that. Then he started the first of 32 years on the Snoqualmie Pass ski patrol. And he took up climbing, scaling Mount Rainier and some of the state's lesser peaks. Pushing into his late 60s, his daughter suggested something high-endurance but low-impact: the annual Seattle-to-Portland bike ride.

He's completed 11 since. Now at 81, he's one of the oldest participants in this year's 205.4-mile ride.

Celebrating its 25th anniversary, the STP (as it is known) is one of the nation's largest organized cycling events, with 8,000 riders signed up this year — a sellout. Organized by the Cascade Bicycle Club, the STP is both a one-day

and two-day event, depending on the ambition and relative endurance of the individual cyclist.

Riders are scheduled to depart today from Husky Stadium between 4:45 and 7:30 a.m. The route meanders through Tukwila, Kent, Algona, Pacific, Sumner, Spanaway, Yelm, Tenino, Centralia, Chehalis, Napavine, Winlock, Vader, Castle Rock and Kelso, and then through the Oregon towns of Rainier, St. Helens and Scappoose, before ending at Holladay Park in Portland.

Most make the trip in two days, stopping at the earliest for an overnight stay in Centralia, the 100-mile mark. About 15 percent to 18 percent of participants are one-day riders who will spend nine to 15 hours in the saddle before reaching Portland.

One such one-day rider is Jerry Baker, who shares the distinction of being one of two riders who have started all 24 STPs. He has completed all of them in one day.

Well, mostly. This excludes the Hard Rain Incident of 1983. That year, Baker, took a break in his dad's place in Puyallup as a deluge forced many riders to abandon



Seattle P-I

At 81, Karl Petterson is one of the oldest riders in this year's STP. Celebrating its 25th anniversary, it's one of the nation's largest organized cycling events, with 8,000 riders signed up this year -- a sellout.

the ride.

Shivering and soaked, Baker stalled his departure as the rain poured outside. Then his dad, in a moment of paternal brilliance, found the loophole that Baker coveted.

"He said, 'You know Puyallup also starts with a "P," so technically, you've already done the STP.' "

Since the first STP in 1979, the race has been canceled only once, after the 1981 eruption of Mount St. Helens. Back then, it was a club ride with about 200 enthusiasts participating.

Paul Wantzelius, 55, the other

rider to have started all 24, said the STP has lost something since it was a small, self-supported event when riders carried their own food and roadside stops were few.

More unusual, he's one of the few people who turn around at the end of the route and ride back.

When it started, the STP was scheduled on the weekend closest to the summer solstice, June 21. This was to give the one-day riders as much daylight as possible. But it also tended to give them as much summer rain as possible, so organizers looked to July, often the driest month in the Pacific Northwest.

TV GUIDE	AFN ATLANTIC	PACIFIC	Sports	<b>AFN</b> Spectrum
6 p.m.	Law & Order	Saturday Night Llve ('03-'04) 5:30 p.m.	British Open Golf Tournament - Third Round 5 p.m.	
7 p.m.	Headline News/ Navy/Marine Corp News	Kickin' It		The View
8 p.m.	SportsCenter	ESPN Great Outdoor Games		Burt Wolf's Local Flavors/ A Makeover Story
	MLB - St. Louis Cardinals @ Cincinnati Reds	EXPN 2Day		Airline/ Airline
10 p.m.		Wire to Wire/ ESPNews	ESPN Great Outdoors Games	Trading Spaces



**MLB** 



scores as of July 16 8 p.m. PDT

#### AMERICAN LEAGUE

Tampa Bay 2 Baltimore o

Detroit 8 New York o

Texas 11 Toronto 2

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE

St. Louis 7 Cincinnati 5

Pittsburgh 6 Florida 2

Milwaukee 3 Chicago 2